

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 424B3

BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC  
 Form 424B3  
 May 22, 2001

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 47  
 DATED: May 18, 2001  
 (To Prospectus dated January 11, 2001,  
 and Prospectus Supplement dated January 11, 2001)

Rule 424(b)(3)  
 File No. 333-52902

\$9,015,893,162  
 THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.  
 MEDIUM-TERM NOTES, SERIES B

Principal Amount: \$35,000,000      Floating Rate Notes       Book Entry Notes   
 Original Issue Date: 5/22/2001      Fixed Rate Notes       Certificated Notes   
 Maturity Date: 5/22/2002      CUSIP#: 073928UE1  
 Option to Extend Maturity:      No        
    Yes            Final Maturity Date:

| Redeemable On | Redemption Price(s) | Optional Repayment Date(s) | Optional Repayment Price(s) |
|---------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| N/A           | N/A                 | N/A                        | N/A                         |

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:  
 -----

Interest Rate:  
 Interest Payment Dates:

Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:  
 -----

Interest Rate Basis:      Maximum Interest Rate: N/A  
 Commercial Paper Rate      Minimum Interest Rate: N/A  
 Federal Funds Rate      Interest Reset Date(s): Daily  
 Treasury Rate      Interest Reset Period: Daily  
 LIBOR Reuters      Interest Payment Date(s): \*  
 LIBOR Telerate  
 Prime Rate  
 CMT Rate

Initial Interest Rate: 4.20%      Interest Payment Period: Quarterly  
 Index Maturity: N/A

Edgar Filing: BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC - Form 424B3

Spread (plus or minus): + 0.20%

\* On the 22nd of August, November, February and at Maturity.

The distribution of Notes will conform to the requirements set forth in Rule 2720 of the NASD Conduct Rules.